GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2467
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2002
PROGRESS OF NUCLEAR PROGRAMME
RAGHUNATH JHA

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that despite 40 years of Indian nuclear programme, it has made no steady growth as has been brought out by the Standing Committee on Energy, (2001) in their 25th Report on the subject;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and has any investigation been made for the tardy growth; and

(c) the money so far spent in the Nuclear power production and the present day nuclear power production?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINIST OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE)

(a) & (b) At present the share of nuclear power in the country is about 3% of the total electricity generation. The need for self-reliance has guided our nuclear power programme from the beginning entailing time and effort. The growth of the nuclear power programme has to commensurate with the investments made in the programme over the years.

In the IX plan adequate resources were provided to achieve the target of 880 MWe capacity. This target has been achieved by completion of Kaiga-1&2 (2x220 MWe) and RAPP -3&4 (2x220 MWe) projects in the calendar year 2000. In addition, TAPP -3&4 (2x540 MWe), Kaiga-3&4 (2x220 MWe), Kudankulam-1&2 (2x1000 MWe) and RAPP -5&6 (2x220 MWe) projects have been sanctioned. The present nuclear power generation capacity of 2720 MWe is proposed to be increased to 4020 MWe by the end of X Plan. Additional projects are also proposed to be taken up for construction progressively with a view to reach the capacity of about 10,000 MWe by end of XI Plan, i.e. 31.3.2012 and about 20,000 MWe by the year 2020. The Standing Committee on Energy (2001) in its Report No. 25 [para no. 3.22 (page 44 and para 3.24 (page 45)] has also commended the physical and financial performance of NPCIL.

(c) An mount of Rs. 8300 crore, on the operating stations and an amount of Rs.3675 crore on the ongoing projects have been spent as on 31.3.2002. The operating stations generated about 19,400 million units (MUs) of electricity in the year 2001-02 and the ongoing projects, on completion, will progressively add a generation capacity of 3960 MWe by December 2008.